

**WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) released the following statement tonight after President Barack Obama announced that Osama bin Laden has been killed in Pakistan, and the U.S. is in possession of his body:**

"Nearly ten years after the horrific attacks of September 11, the United States has killed the mastermind behind that attack that took thousands of lives. That terrible day has been seared into our memory, and I hope Osama bin Laden's death brings some measure of comfort to the families of those killed on 9/11 - and to everyone across America who wanted to see him brought to justice.

"President Obama made bin Laden's death or capture a top priority, and it was that focus that helped bring about our biggest victory against al Qaeda. Our military and intelligence community have tirelessly pursued Osama bin Laden, and it is a testament to their skill and determination that bin Laden has been killed. I, along with all Americans, commend their efforts and thank them for their service.

"While the enormity of this moment cannot be overstated, we all recognize that the threat of terrorism still exists and we must remain vigilant. We will continue to stay alert and confront the national security threats we face."